

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-9 (Canceled)

10. (Withdrawn) A demountable tire rim with spare inner wheel and tire for said tire rim according to claim 8 wherein the annular depression presents annular grooves which decrease contact and friction surface with the spare inner wheel.

11. (Canceled)

12. (Withdrawn) A demountable tire rim with spare inner wheel and tire for said tire rim according to claim 1 which comprises assembly means for more than one spare inner wheel, which means consist of an annular depression, divided in, at least, two sectors, by means of, at least, an intermediate elastic rim.

13-19. (Cancelled)

20. (Withdrawn) A demountable tire rim with spare inner wheel and tire for said tire rim according to claim 1 which comprises a one-piece inner wheel made of a single material.

21. (Withdrawn) A demountable tire rim with spare inner wheel and tire for said tire rim according to claim 1 which comprises an inner wheel consisting of a plurality of segments mutually related by strong and flexible joining means.

22. (Withdrawn) A demountable tire rim with spare inner wheel and tire for said tire rim according to claim 1 which comprises a spare inner wheel made of elastomeric material.

23. (Withdrawn) A demountable tire rim with spare inner wheel and tire for said tire rim according to claim 1 which comprises an inner wheel made of plastic material.

24. (Withdrawn) A demountable tire rim with spare inner wheel and tire for said tire rim according to claim 1 which comprises an inner wheel made of a light metal.

25. (Withdrawn) A demountable tire rim with spare inner wheel and tire for said tire rim according to claim 1 which comprises an inner wheel made of synthetic fibers and a material which compacts them.

26. (Withdrawn) A demountable tire rim with spare inner wheel and tire for said tire rim according to claim 1 wherein the inner wheel has a structural reinforcement inner core.

27. (Withdrawn) A demountable tire rim with spare inner wheel and tire for said tire rim according to claim 1 which comprises an inner wheel provided with a metal coating on its major surface diameter provided with an outer layer consisting of polytetrafluoroethylene polymer (PTFE).

28. (Withdrawn) A demountable tire rim with spare inner wheel and tire for said tire rim according to claim 1 which comprises an inner wheel provided with flexibilizing means consisting of a plurality of narrowings of its cross section.

29. (Withdrawn) A demountable tire rim with spare inner wheel and tire for said tire rim according to claim 1 wherein the inner wheel forms recesses and ledges on its base which diminish its contact with the bottom of the annular depression.

30. (Withdrawn) A demountable tire rim with spare inner wheel and tire for said tire rim according to claim 1 wherein the inner wheel forms recesses and ledges on its periphery which diminish its contact with the inner surface of the tire tread.

31. (Withdrawn) A demountable tire rim with spare inner wheel and tire for said tire rim

In re appln. of : Jose Santiago Rolla
Serial No. 10/751,707

according to claim 1 wherein the inner wheel is crossed by a plurality of cross section openings as easing and elasticity means.

32-35 (Canceled)

36. (Currently amended) A demountable tire ~~rim~~ assembly for use with a vehicle having a spare inner wheel associated therewith and adapted to receive a tire having an inner surface thereon for engagement with the ground inner surface of the tire, including in combination:

a tire ~~rim~~ body comprised of at least two complementary annular parts of which both annular parts provide side holding rims structurally arranged to engage the tire mounted thereon;

said at least two complementary annular parts being provided with reciprocal coupling means structurally arranged therebetween to permit engagement of said complementary annular parts to one another to provide support for the spare inner wheel and to permit engagement of the spare inner wheel with the ground inner surface of the tire when in the run flat condition; and

wherein said reciprocal coupling means includes a plurality of threaded sectors on the edge of the perimeter of said annular parts of the tire ~~rim~~ assembly, with one of said annular parts having an elevated stop member associated with said threaded sectors and a recessed non-threaded sector associated with said threaded sectors, with said threaded and non-threaded sectors having the same width, such that when said complementary annular parts are inserted one into the other a threaded rotating movement therebetween fixes one to the other.

37. (Currently amended) The demountable tire ~~rim~~ assembly, in accordance with claim 36, wherein the spare inner wheel has a diameter greater than the diameter of said holding rims.

38. (Currently amended) The demountable tire ~~rim~~ assembly in accordance with claim 36,

In re appln. of : Jose Santiago Rolla
Serial No. 10/751,707

wherein said reciprocal coupling means include interconnection and fixation members to secure said annular parts to one another.

39. (Currently amended) The demountable tire ~~rim~~ assembly in accordance with claim 38, wherein said annular parts include flanges thereon having a plurality of aligned openings in said flanges and said interconnection and fixation members include screw members.

40. (Currently amended) The demountable tire ~~rim~~ assembly in accordance with claim 39, wherein said interconnection and fixation members include bolt members.

41. (Currently amended) The demountable tire ~~rim~~ assembly in accordance with claim 36, wherein said complimentary annular parts provide an annular depression having side edges defined by said annular parts for receiving the spare inner wheel.

42. (Currently amended) The demountable tire ~~rim~~ assembly in accordance with claim 41[.], wherein said annular depression includes a reduced friction surface for receiving the spare inner wheel.

43 (Currently amended) The demountable tire ~~rim~~ assembly in accordance with claim 41, wherein said holding rim members are positioned against said side edges for receiving the spare inner wheel.

44. (Currently amended) The demountable tire ~~rim~~ assembly in accordance with claim 43, wherein each of said annular parts include an annular side detention member engageable with the spare inner wheel.

45. (Currently amended) The demountable tire ~~rim~~ assembly in accordance with claim 44, wherein the spare inner wheel includes an annular projection member which is structurally

arranged to be received by said annular side retention members.

46. (Currently amended) The demountable tire ~~rim~~ assembly in accordance with claim 41, wherein bearing members are positioned between the inner wheel member and said annular depression.

47. (Currently amended) The demountable tire ~~rim~~ assembly in accordance with claim 36, wherein adjacent said side holding rims said annular parts include a plurality of recesses and ledges thereon which engage the tire mounted thereon to restrict rotation of the tire during the run flat condition.

48. (Currently amended) The demountable tire ~~rim~~ assembly in accordance with claim 47, wherein the tire includes a bead portion having a plurality of recesses and ledges therearound which cooperate with said recess and ledges on said annular parts to restrict rotation of the tire during the run flat condition.

49. (Currently amended) The demountable tire ~~rim~~ assembly in accordance with claim 36, wherein said fixed complementary annular parts define a joint area therebetween.

50 (Currently amended) The demountable tire ~~rim~~ assembly in accordance with claim 49, wherein said joint area defined by said annular parts include sidewalls having a uniform annular facing thereon.

51. (Currently amended) The demountable tire ~~rim~~ assembly in accordance with claim 49, wherein said joint area defined by said annular parts include sidewalls having concentric annular ledges thereon.

52. (Currently amended) The demountable tire ~~rim~~ assembly in accordance with claim 49,

In re appln. of : Jose Santiago Rolla
Serial No. 10/751,707

wherein said joint area includes an elastomeric material positioned therein.

53. (Currently amended) The demountable tire ~~rim~~ assembly in accordance with claim 49,
wherein said elastomeric material includes sidewalls having concentric annular ledges thereon.

54. (Currently amended) The demountable tire ~~rim~~ assembly in accordance with claim 49,
wherein said elastomeric material includes sidewalls having a uniform facing thereon.